

Tempe Art in Private Development



Tosco II
1500 N. Priest Drive

Otto Rigan

Premarks, 2002

Sandstone and glass

Artist Website: www.OttoRiganStudio.com

Photo by: www.ottoriganstudios.com

Description: Arranged on a north/south axis, *Premarks* are five stone and glass sculptural markers which look as though they are partially covered by the earth berm on which they sit. The implications being the sculptures were part of a pre-history and are emerging from the landscape. The markers are made of solid, natural-cleft red-black sandstone with multiple inlays of laminated and mirrored glass. The reflective inlay pattern of glass is a randomly repeated geometry that follows the delta-like "footprint" of the building. These glass patterns suggest that the language of the building was preceded by the pre-architecture of the immediate place.

Artist biography: Although Rigan trained as a painter, he has pursued many broad-ranging and cross-disciplinary projects throughout his career. While still in college he completed his first large-scale public commission. In his early 20s, Rigan apprenticed to a master architectural glass craftsman. He then wrote and photographed four books and lectured widely on their subjects. While in his 30s, Rigan began to develop the sculpture for which he is most noted. His sculptural explorations reflect his interest in the temporality of glass and how it manipulates light, merged with the physicality of stone – a metaphor for architecture, permanence, and the organic. Rigan splits his time between making studio-based autonomous works to large-scale public and corporate spaces. The larger commissions often merge architecture, landscape and other disciplines as an extension of the artist's palette.

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